

# Vernonia City News...

## At the July 21, 2014 City Council Meeting:

**Council Continues Negotiations for City Administrator-** Immediately upon convening the regular City Council meeting, Council recessed to Executive Session under ORS 196.660(2)(a) *Employment of Public Officers, Employees and Agents*. Upon returning to regular session Council instructed staff to make a counter offer to Gian Paolo "Paul" Mammone for the City Administrator position. Later in the meeting Councilor McNair asked Mayor Josette Mitchell, who has been serving as Interim City Administrator with no pay, whether she would be willing to continue in that capacity until September 1, 2014. Mitchell declined to answer the request. McNair later went on record as expressing his disapproval and disappointment with Council's choice for the new City Administrator.

**Council Conducts Business with Just Three Members-** Following the Executive Session, Councilor Kim Tierney was excused from the meeting for personal reasons. Councilor Donna Webb was also absent from the meeting, leaving just three Council members, Mayor Josette Mitchell and Councilors Randy

Parrow and Bruce McNair to conduct business for the remainder of the meeting.

**Mayor Makes Appointments to Committee and Board-** With consensus from Council, Mayor Josette Mitchell reappointed Grant Williams to the Library Board and Quentin Skanes to serve as Student Representative to the Parks Committee.

**Council Discusses Crosswalks-** Council received a letter from citizen Tim Anderson requesting that the City of Vernonia pursue with the State of Oregon the installation of a crosswalk across Highway 47 at Cougar Street. The reason for the request is because of safety concerns due to new development in the area. Council briefly discussed the issue and talked about several options but took no action.

**Council Approves Paving Costs-** Council approved an estimate from Five Star Paving, Inc. for \$18,720 to extend the paving project on Maple Street for an extra block from Jefferson Street to Adams Street. The project was already scheduled to pave Maple Street from Jefferson to Weed Avenue.

**Council Approves Draft for Sword Property Access-** Council approved by consensus a draft proposal agreement between the City of Vernonia and William Sword that outlines the protocol for Mr. Sword to access his property with heavy equipment through Anderson Park. The agreement will now go to Mr. Sword to be signed.

**Council Approves Contract for GIS-** Council authorized the signing of a Personal Services Contract with Vernonia Geographic Information Systems for GIS (Geographic Information Systems) project consulting. The contract is not to exceed \$28,000 and terminates on June 30, 2015. The scope of work includes monthly maintenance of the Vernonia GIS system, providing staff support with maps, documents and GIS related issues and materials and calls for collaboration with the City Administrator to meet the goals of the City.

**Council Discusses Pioneer Cemetery Line Adjustment-** Council discussed a proposal from Eddie Broadwell and Lisa Bloss-Johnson to have KLS Surveying redraw the property lines for the Pioneer Cemetery on Keasey Road. Broadwell and Bloss Johnson own property adjacent to the Pioneer Cemetery at 18300 Keasey Road. According to the Record of Survey the property lines overlap. Broadwell and Bloss-Johnson proposed splitting the cost for the line adjustment with the City and then transferring the properties that each own erroneously. Estimated cost is between \$2346 and \$2946. Council's consensus was that they were not interested in the proposal.

**Council Approves Employee Teaching at Outdoor School-** Council approved a motion to allow a City Utility II Employee to teach classes about water as a

resource and what it takes to make water for public consumption. The class will be taught at Vernonia School District Outdoor School from September 16-19. The employee will be paid by the City for four half days while teaching the class.

**Council Approves Title Contract-** Council approved an extension of a contract with Ticor Title for Real Estate Title Search, Escrow and Related Services, not to exceed \$20,000. The scope of work in the contract relates to flood damaged property buyouts by FEMA and the costs are paid for through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The City is contracted with Community Action Team to provide flood administrative services for these activities. Mayor Josette Mitchell abstained from voting on this item.

## At the August 4, 2014 City Council Meeting:

**Council Approves Police Vehicle Purchase-** Council approved the purchase of two used Chevy Tahoe police vehicles from the Scappoose Police Department for a total of \$40,000. Vernonia Police Chief Mike Conner says the vehicles will come fully equipped except for radios. One vehicle has approximately 18,000 miles and the other just over 30,000. According to Conner the VPD just made their final payment on a Tahoe they already own that vehicle when new and equipped cost nearly \$60,000. Conner says he has been budgeting \$12,000 per year for vehicle payments, although he did not anticipate purchasing any vehicles this year and does not have any funds in his budget. Conner told Council he has completed a financing arrangement

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## Vernonia Police Blotter July 14-31, 2014

### Arrests/Reports Taken

- July 17, 2014 – Report of Criminal Mischief in the 800 Block of Bridge St. (Ongoing Investigation)
- July 19, 2014 – Report of Criminal Mischief (Vandalism) at Anderson Trailer Park. Report referred to the District Attorney for prosecution.
- July 19, 2014 – Arrest on an outstanding Arrest Warrant out of the Vernonia Justice Court.
- July 19, 2014 – Arrest near the Vernonia Lake for Violation of a No Contact Order.
- July 22, 2014 – Report of Criminal Mischief (Vandalism) in the 900 Block of Bridge St.
- July 31, 2014 – Report of Criminal Mischief (Vandalism) in the 900 Block of 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.

- July 31/2014 – Report of Theft (Gas & gas cans) in the 1800 Block of N. Mist Dr.

### Traffic Citations:

- July 4, 2014 – Issued a traffic citation for No Operator License and Driving Uninsured on Bridge St. near Cougar St.

### Jamboree preliminary stats

- 08/01/14-08/03/14:  
10 Total Arrests
- 4 DUII
  - 4 Arrest Warrants
  - 1 Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamines
  - 1 Menacing / Disorderly Conduct/ Harassment
  - Numerous Traffic Stops/ Violation Citations issued.

**NOW RECRUITING**

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**METRO WEST** AMBULANCE

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## NOTICE OF POSITIONS OPEN MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL CITY OF VERNONIA

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a General Election will be held on the 4th day of November 2014, at which time the legal voters of said City will be entitled to vote for candidates to certain city offices.

### OFFICES OPEN FOR ELECTION:

- VERNONIA MAYOR TWO YEAR TERM 2015-2016
  - Position held presently by Josette Mitchell
- VERNONIA COUNCIL MEMBER FOUR YEAR TERM 2015-2018
  - Position held presently by Donna Webb
- VERNONIA COUNCIL MEMBER FOUR YEAR TERM 2015-2018
  - Position held presently by Bruce McNair

Election packets are available at the office of the City Recorder, 1001 Bridge St, Vernonia, OR 97064.

Original nominating petitions can be filed no later than August 22, 2014, by 4:00 p.m. with the City Recorder. No faxes accepted.

For more information call Joann Glass, City Recorder at 503-429-5291 ext. 106.

### \*\*\*AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE\*\*\*

Please contact the City Recorder, Vernonia City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064 (Phone No. 503-429-5291) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an accommodation. TCC users please call Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900.

The City of Vernonia is an equal opportunity provider